UNITED
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A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.109/1039
26 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## Report of the Secretary-General

## Transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter

1. The previous report of the Secretary-General on the subject (A/AC.109/1003) listed the dates on which information had been transmitted to the Secretary-General under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations up to 4 August 1989. The annex to the present report shows the dates on which such information was transmitted in respect of the years 1988 and 1989 up to 26 July 1990.

2. The information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter follows in general the standard form approved by the General Assembly and includes information on geography, history, population, economic, social and educational conditions. In the case of Territories under the administration of New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the annual reports on the Territories also include information on constitutional matters. Additional information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories under their administration is given by the representatives of New Zealand and the United States during meetings of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Supplementary information is also made available by New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States concerning Territories under their administration.



best copy available

Study of information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter

3. In compliance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963 and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including in particular resolution 44/83 of 11 December 1989, the Secretariat has continued to use the information transmitted in the preparation of working papers on each Territory for the Special Committee.

Annex

DATES OF TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND PERIOD COVERED a/

| | Information received in 1989 | | Information received in 1990 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Date of receipt | Period covered | Date of receipt | Period covered |
| FRANCE | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| New Caledonia b/ | | | | |
| NEW ZEALAND (1 April-31 March) c/ | 23 March 89 | 1988 | -- | -- |
| Tokelau | | | | |
| PORTUGAL | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| East Timor d/ | | | | |
| SPAIN | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Western Sahara e/ | | | | |
| UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (Calendar year) | | | | |
| Anguilla | 16 February 89 | 1987/88 | -- | -- |
| Bermuda | 9 November 89 | 1988/89 | -- | -- |
| British Virgin Islands | 17 August 89 | 1987 | 2 April 90 | 1989/90 |
| Cayman Islands | 14 March 89 | 1988/89 | 28 June 90 | 1990 |
| | 16 June 89 | 1989 | | |
| | 6 September 89 | 1988 | | |
| Falkland Islands (Malvinas) | 29 June 89 | 1987/88 | 12 June 90 | 1989/90 |
| Gilbraltar | 28 February 89 | 1987/88 | -- | -- |
| Montserrat | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Pitcairn | 22 August 89 | 1988 | -- | -- |
| St. Helena c/ | 6 October 89 | 1988/89 | -- | -- |
| (including Tristan da Cunha) | 9 November 89 | 1988/89 | | |
| Turks and Caicos Islands | 28 February 89 | 1988 | 3 April 90 | 1989/90 |

| | Information received in 1989 | | Information received in 1990 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Date of receipt | Period covered | Date of receipt | Period covered |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA f/ (1 October-30 September) | | | | |
| American Samoa | 8 March 89 | 1988 | 13 March 90 | 1987 |
| Guam | 8 March 89 | 1986/87 | 13 March 90 | 1989 |
| United States Virgin Islands | -- | -- | 13 March 90 | 1989/90 |

a/ For a preliminary list of territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960) applies, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/5446/Rev.1), annex I.

b/ According to its resolution 41/41 A of 2 December 1986, the General Assembly "considers that, in the light of the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), New Caledonia is a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter".

c/ Period extends from 1 April of the year listed to 31 March of the following year.

d/ Since May 1980, the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations has informed the Secretary-General (see A/35/233, A/36/160, A/37/113, A/38/125, A/39/136, A/40/159, A/41/190, A/42/171, A/43/219, A/44/262 and A/45/172) that the Portuguese Government has nothing to add to the information already provided by that Mission in its note of 6 April 1979 (A/34/311), as required by Article 73 e of the Charter. In that note, the Permanent Representative of Portugal stated that the conditions still prevailing in East Timor had prevented his Government from assuming its responsibilities for the administration of that Territory.

e/ On 26 February 1976, the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that "the Spanish Government, as of today, definitely terminates its presence in the Territory of the Sahara and deems it necessary to place the following on record: ... (a) Spain considers itself henceforth exempt from any responsibility of an international nature in connection with the administration of the said Territory, in view of the cessation of its participation in the temporary administration established for the Territory ..."



READEX FICHE

(A/31/56-S/11997). For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1976.

f/ Period extends from 1 October of the previous year to 30 September of the year listed.

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A

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## Report of the Secretary-General

## Transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter

## Corrigendum

Replace the existing annex by the attached text.

Annex

DATES OF TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND PERIOD COVERED a/

| | Information received in 1989 | | Information received in 1990 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Date of receipt | Period covered | Date of receipt | Period covered |
| FRANCE | | | | |
| New Caledonia b/ | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| NEW ZEALAND | | | | |
| Tokelau | 23 March 89 | 1987/88 | 29 May 1990 | 1988/89 |
| PORTUGAL | | | | |
| East Timor c/ | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| SPAIN | | | | |
| Western Sahara d/ | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (calendar year) | | | | |
| Anguilla | 16 February 89 | 1987/88 | -- | -- |
| Bermuda | 9 November 89 | 1988/89 | -- | -- |
| British Virgin Islands | 17 August 89 | 1987 | 2 April 90 | 1989/90 |
| Cayman Islands | 14 March 89<br>16 June 89<br>6 September 89 | 1988/89<br>1989<br>1988 | 28 June 90 | 1990 |
| Falkland Islands (Malvinas) | 29 June 89 | 1987/88 | 12 June 90 | 1989/90 |
| Gibraltar | 28 February 89 | 1987/88 | -- | -- |
| Montserrat | -- | -- | -- | -- |

/...

| | Information received in 1989 | | Information received in 1990 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Date of receipt | Period covered | Date of receipt | Period covered |
| Pitcairn | 22 August 89 | 1988 | -- | -- |
| St. Helena e/ (including Tristan da Cunha) | 6 October 89<br>9 November 89 | 1988/89<br>1988/89 | -- | -- |
| Turks and Caicos Islands | 28 February 89 | 1988 | 3 April 90 | 1989/90 |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA f/ (1 October-30 September) | | | | |
| American Samoa | 8 March 89 | 1988 | 13 March 90 | 1988 |
| Guam | 8 March 89 | 1986/87 | 13 March 90 | 1989 |
| United States Virgin Islands | -- | -- | 13 March 90 | 1989/90 |

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c/ Since May 1980, the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations has informed the Secretary-General (see A/35/233, A/36/160, A/37/113, A/38/125, A/39/136, A/40/159, A/41/190, A/42/171, A/43/219, A/44/262 and A/45/172) that the Portuguese Government has nothing to add to the information already provided by that Mission in its note of 6 April 1979 (A/34/311), as required by Article 73 e of the Charter. In that note, the Permanent Representative of Portugal stated that the conditions still prevailing in East Timor had prevented his Government from assuming its responsibilities for the administration of that Territory.

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e/ Period extends from 1 April of the year listed to 31 March of the following year.

f/ Period extends from 1 October of the previous year to 30 September of the year listed.

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UNITED NATIONS

A

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30 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR IN OBSERVANCE OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES, HELD AT PORT VILA, VANUATU, FROM 9 TO 11 MAY 1990

Rapporteur: Mr. Samuel A. MDEE (United Republic of Tanzania)

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## INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, bearing in mind that the year 1990 would mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and on the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, adopted resolution 44/100 of 11 December 1989, to which was annexed a programme of activities to be carried out in observance of that anniversary.

2. Both the resolution and the programme of activities emphasized the importance of the occasion as an opportunity to evaluate the progress achieved over the past 30 years in the implementation of the Declaration and, in the light of the recent accession of Namibia to independence, to reflect on the outstanding problems of decolonization and to formulate an effective approach and methodology that would assist the Special Committee in its future consideration of the remaining Territories.

3. In its enabling legislation, the General Assembly commended the programme of activities for appropriate action to all States, the United Nations bodies concerned, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. Within that context, the Special Committee was mandated not only to follow closely the implementation of the Programme but also to hold two regional seminars: one in the Pacific and the other in the Caribbean, the two regions where the majority of the remaining 18 Territories are located.

4. As stated in the guidelines and rules of procedure for the seminars (A/AC.109/1022), the primary objectives of the two regional events were to provide the Special Committee with the opportunity to discuss the specific problems of the remaining colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, most of them small island Territories, their special needs and the challenges posed by their geographical location and other specific conditions and to draw up plans for the rapid decolonization of those Territories bearing in mind the provisions of General Assembly resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988 calling for a complete decolonization by the year 2000.

5. In formulating strategies on how best to assist the peoples of those Territories in their progress towards the exercise of their right to self-determination, special attention was to be given to the views expressed by their representatives at the seminars, hence the importance the Special Committee attached to the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the exceptional efforts it deployed to secure such participation. In this connection, the understanding shown by the administering Powers was of great assistance in ensuring the attendance of the largest number ever of participants from Non-Self-Governing Territories at a seminar of the Special Committee.

## I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SEMINAR

6. The Seminar in the Pacific region was held at Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 9 to 11 May 1990.

7. The Seminar held five meetings, in which members of the Special Committee, representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories, representatives of administering Powers (New Zealand and Portugal), eminent persons invited as special guests and non-governmental organizations participated. The following States members of the South Pacific Forums also participated in the seminar: Australia, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. (For further details, see annex III to the present report.)

8. The Seminar was conducted by Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations and Chairman of the Special Committee, as its Chairman, with the participation of the following members of the Special Committee: Chile, Fiji, Indonesia, Norway, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia.

9. At the 1st meeting, on 9 May 1990, the following representatives were appointed officers of the Seminar: Messrs. Winston Thompson (Fiji), Sverre J. Bergh Johanssen (Norway), and Ghazi Jomaa (Tunisia) as Vice-Chairmen and Samuel A. Mdee (United Republic of Tanzania) as Rapporteur. Mr. Winston Thompson (Fiji) was appointed Chairman of the Drafting Committee and the following participants served as members of that Committee: Messrs. Wiryono Sastro Handoyo (Indonesia), Renagi Renagi Lohia (Papua New Guinea), Robert F. Van Lierop (Vanuatu), Horacio del Valle (Chile), Milislav Paić (Yugoslavia), Leland Bettis (Guam), Rock Wamytan (New Caledonia) and Abraham Baeanisia (Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations).

10. The Seminar considered the themes recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/100 (see annex I to the present report).

## II. CONDUCT OF THE SEMINAR

### A. Proceedings of the meetings

11. The Seminar was opened on 9 May 1990 by Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations and Chairman of the Special Committee, who served as Chairman of the Seminar. Mr. Tadesse introduced the Prime Minister of Vanuatu who delivered the opening address.

12. Father Walter H. Lini, Prime Minister of Vanuatu, delivered an address to the Seminar at its opening meeting. In accordance with a decision taken at the Seminar, that statement is reproduced in extenso in annex II to the present report.

13. The Seminar received messages from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which were read out by the Chairman of the Seminar at the meetings.

14. At its final meeting, on 11 May 1990, the Seminar adopted by acclamation a final document entitled "Summary of discussions". For further details see chapter III of the present report.

15. In his statement, following the address of the Prime Minister, the Chairman noted that in 1945 the founding members of the United Nations had considered that the end of colonialism was one of the necessary conditions for a durable peace. To that end, they had devoted three entire chapters of the Charter of the United Nations to the question of dependent Territories and had recognized that the interests of the inhabitants of the colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories were paramount. Those founding members had accepted "as a sacred trust" the obligation to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the peoples of those Territories, and that that responsibility would remain unfulfilled until the total elimination of colonialism had been achieved.

16. After outlining the events that had led to the establishment of the Special Committee in 1961, as well as the tasks carried out by that Committee since its inception and its significant achievements in the field of decolonization, the Chairman pointed out that the majority of the 18 remaining colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee was concerned were relatively small in size and population and had limited resources. Nevertheless, the basic principles set forth in the Declaration applied equally to them. In that context, it was essential to take into account the special needs and specific conditions of those Territories in order to ensure that the wishes of their inhabitants were respected in the exercise of their basic rights to self-determination and independence and to guarantee their economic and social development. He stated further that any course of action should therefore be tailored to the particular conditions prevailing in a given dependent Territory, and stressed the importance of enlisting the co-operation of the administering Powers because of their special responsibility for ensuring the realization of self-determination in their respective Territories.

17. Noting that economic development was among the leading concerns of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Chairman emphasized the importance of creating specific programmes to guide and assist their economic development through greater self-reliance and by reducing their dependence on external sources. Given the remoteness and isolation of most of the Territories, the Chairman considered that efforts should be undertaken to upgrade transportation and communication infrastructures and that concerted efforts should be deployed to enhance their ability to protect and to derive benefit from the exploitation of their natural resources.

18. The Chairman considered that the administering Powers should assist and guide the economic development of the Territories under their administration in close consultation and co-operation with the legitimate representatives of those Territories. The administering Powers should ensure that foreign economic activities in connection with transfers of resources to the Non-Self-Governing Territories did not create any obstacle to the process of self-determination. In addition, the administering Powers should ensure and safeguard permanent sovereignty of the peoples of those Territories over the natural resources of their

respective countries and should take steps to protect them from activities harmful to those natural resources and the environment. They should prevent all illegal activities connected to drug trafficking.

19. Since the presence of military bases and installations in Non-Self-Governing Territories could constitute an obstacle to their self-determination, the Chairman was of the view that existing ones should be withdrawn and no further entrenchment should be condoned.

20. In conclusion, he noted that 6 of the 18 Non-Self-Governing Territories on the Special Committee's list were located in the Pacific. He emphasized that in keeping with the General Assembly's proclamation of the years 1990 to 2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Special Committee was determined to ensure that the right of all peoples to self-determination was finally fulfilled, and urged all to work towards the achievement of complete and total decolonization by the year 2000.

## B. Summary of statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories

### New Caledonia

21. Mr. Paul Neaoutyne, President of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste (FLNKS), said the Kanak people had endured much suffering in order to claim their dignity. Their search for dignity and the right to independence was not negotiable. FLNKS had agreed to take part in the Paris negotiations and had signed the Matignon Agreement in order to create stability in the Territory.

22. He considered that the Special Committee and the United Nations were the constant companions of FLNKS on the road to decolonization, and he hoped that they would continue to act to persuade France to fulfil its duties with respect to New Caledonia. He said that the financial resources being provided by France must not be a substitute for Kanak dignity. Imbalances resulting from French colonization of Kanak territory needed to be redressed. France should take positive action in the educational, economic and cultural areas in order to prepare the Territory for independence.

23. Mr. Rock Wamytan, representative of FLNKS, said the process of decolonization in New Caledonia was being impeded by the importation of an immigrant population to the Territory. The Kanak population had been marginalized while French settlers had assumed the prominent role in the Territory. He opposed the policy of the colonial Power of integrating New Caledonia into the metropolitan country and called for the decolonization of the Territory. Expressing the hope that by 1998 the Kanak people would have all the necessary skills to exercise their right to self-determination, he stated that FLNKS signature of the Matignon Agreement had not given carte blanche to the colonial Power. The Kanak people had not lost sight of their primary goal of independence.

24. Mr. Wamytan considered that the strongest guarantee for the Kanak people was the international community's support for the decolonization process in the Territory. The Kanak people had sought an enhanced status within the international community, so that their voice could be heard more strongly. Mr. Wamytan expressed the hope that the United Nations would send a visiting mission to ascertain conditions in New Caledonia.

25. Mr. Yann Celene Uregei, representative of the Front unï de libération kanak, said the Matignon Agreement did not guarantee independence for the Kanak people and that his organization had signed the Agreement under pressure from the French Government. He considered the 10-year period until self-determination too long and cautioned that there was no assurance that any future French Government would continue to honour agreements entered into by the previous Government.

Guam

26. Mr. Leland Bettis, Executive Director of the Guam Commission on Self-determination, said that he had recently been informed by the United States Mission to the United Nations that although the administering Power would not be participating in the Seminar it was committed to the decolonization process and to encouraging the United States Territories to take the road to self-determination most appropriate for each of them.

27. According to Mr. Bettis, Guam was seeking a new relationship with the administering Power. Throughout its 91-year history as a United States possession, Guam had at every step been the catalyst for an enhanced relationship. Guam's requests for more autonomy and home rule had traditionally been responded to in a slow fashion. Nevertheless, progress had been achieved within the political system of the administering Power.

28. In 1978, Guam had rejected a constitutional proposal offered by the administering Power because that proposed constitution did not address Guam's relationship with the administering Power. In 1980, Guam had decided to pursue a status of commonwealth with the administering Power. In 1987, Guamanian voters had approved a Commonwealth Act which, when approved by the United States Congress, would provide Guam with the ability to be internally self-governing with its own constitution.

29. Mr. Bettis noted that the Commonwealth Act, which had been before the United States Congress for two-and-a-half years, contained a mechanism by which Guam's indigenous Chamorro inhabitants would exercise their right to self-determination and attain a political status recognized by the General Assembly in its resolution 1541 (XV) of 14 December 1960. He stressed that recognizing the right of Guam's indigenous people to serve as the proponent for the determination of Guam's ultimate political status was necessary, given the influx of settler and immigrant populations that had occurred under United States law.

30. Guam did not seek to disenfranchise any resident, but the people had spoken on who should be eligible to resolve the definitive political status of the Chamorro homeland. Under the commonwealth status proposal, the constitution of Guam would establish the mechanism for that right.

31. Guam clearly sought to move beyond its colonial relationship with the administering Power. While the commonwealth status proposal set the agenda for that evolution, Guam remained interested in working constructively with the administering Power through an interim partnership. As longstanding citizens of the United States, Guamanians had sought to continue their affinity of interests with the United States as long as their rights were recognized.

32. Mr. Ron Rivera, Chairman of the Organization of People for Indigenous Rights of Guam, said the Chamorro people were the first in the Pacific to be colonized and that they continued to be colonized. His organization supported the Commonwealth Act proposed for Guam which would provide for self-determination by the Chamorro people. Currently, Guam was controlled by the United States Congress, a situation unacceptable to the Chamorro people. He considered that the administering Power had failed to make known to the Chamorro people its rights and powers within the United Nations.

Tokelau

33. Mr. Casimilo Perez, Official Secretary of the Office for Tokelau Affairs, said that his country possessed special characteristics. The people of Tokelau believed that if they entered into a new relationship with New Zealand, there would be no turning back. Nor did Tokelau wish to continue the status quo with the administering Power. Any new relationship, however, would have to conform to the traditional practices of the leadership of Tokelau. The people of Tokelau should be given the ability to develop a form of government acceptable to them.

34. Mr. Perez further stated that his Government was trying to evolve a political system that would accord with the requirements of Tokelau society. Tokelau required a strong economic base and the question of economic development was of high priority. The two largest aid donors to Tokelau were New Zealand and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He urged the Special Committee to foster flexibility on the part of international donor agencies so as to enable Tokelau to achieve maximum development.

American Samoa

35. I. S. Mulitauaopele, High Talking Chief and Special Assistant to the Governor on Public Affairs, said that his Government supported the aims and purposes of the Special Committee. However, there "cannot be anything more reprehensible in life than having someone else make your decisions for you". He noted that a warm and close relationship between American Samoa and the United States had existed for 90 years. The United States had lived up to its promises to respect the individual rights of American Samoans, and to protect their land system and their way of life. The people of American Samoa were proud to have the American flag flying over their territory. They were eager to continue the present relationship. American Samoa was by every means "self-governing". The entire Government and public service of American Samoa were made up almost exclusively of Samoans. There was no military presence in American Samoa except for the Army Reserve of all Samoan militarymen established at American Samoa's own request. All decisions, major or not, were made by the American Samoan people and 90 to 95 per cent of all

land was owned by American Samoans. Very little land was used by the Government and none was owned by the United States Federal Government.

36. Mr. Mulitauaopele concluded his remarks by stating that it was the wish of the people of American Samoa to maintain their present relationship with the United States, which, he said, was based on mutual respect and care for each other.

## III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SEMINAR

37. On 11 May 1990, the participants in the Seminar adopted by acclamation the following summary of discussions:

### Summary of discussions

1. All the participants in the Seminar held to observe the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples strongly reaffirmed their commitment to the elimination of colonialism and the principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions concerning decolonization. They considered that those principles remained as valid today as they were in 1960. They stressed that in order to achieve the elimination of colonialism by the year 2000, all States should adhere to the existing fundamental principles and guidelines contained in the Charter of the United Nations and all other relevant resolutions.

2. Speakers overwhelmingly emphasized the vital role played by the United Nations in the decolonization process and stressed that that role should be actively pursued to hasten the completion of the process of decolonization.

3. Representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories, non-governmental organizations and other participants endorsed the continuation of the important work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and pledged full support in its efforts towards the complete eradication of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations and in ensuring the enjoyment by all peoples of their right to self-determination in its political, economic and social aspects.

4. Participants stressed that all peoples have an inalienable right to self-determination and independence and that it was for the people of each remaining colonial Territory to exercise their right to self-determination through a free expression of their will with complete knowledge and awareness of all the options open to them. Any act of self-determination should be based on the genuine wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and should involve the offer of a full range of options, including that of independence, and must be preceded by adequate and unbiased political education and sensitization of the populations concerned.

5. It was considered that decolonization situations should be guided by a full commitment to the principles contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) combined with understanding and flexibility as a means of fulfilling the objective of decolonization. A number of speakers noted that, in many instances, some Territories had fully exercised, under United Nations observation, their inalienable right to self-determination and had achieved independence. In other cases, in accordance with the wishes of the peoples concerned, the option of full independence had not been chosen. Instead, under United Nations observation and in accordance with the guidelines set forth in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV), self-government in the form of integration or free association with the administering Power had provided an alternative solution to those countries.

6. Participants supported the call issued in his opening address by the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, His Excellency The Honourable Father Walter H. Lini, that all administering Powers should establish the necessary conditions, as soon as possible, to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to fully exercise their right to self-determination and independence, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, in which it declared the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Decolonization and in accordance with the principles and practices of the United Nations.

7. Participants considered that it was the responsibility of the administering Powers to ensure that political, economic and social conditions were developed to the extent that the people of the Territory were in a position to make a free choice of self-determination unimpeded by a lack of political, economic or social self-sufficiency or development.

8. A considerable number of speakers stated that the administering Powers concerned had the primary responsibility for preparing the peoples of the Territories under their administration to take charge of their own destiny. That included the economic and social advancement of those populations and the creation of psychological conditions required to break away from dependency and to assume responsibility.

9. Speakers considered that the administering Powers should provide the Special Committee with full, up-to-date and adequate information on the Territories under their administration in conformity with Article 73 e of the Charter and in pursuance of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions.

10. Noting that sending visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories would require greater co-operation from the administering Powers, many participants requested that the latter should facilitate missions of the Special Committee to the Territories under their administration. They also urged the administering Powers to encourage the participation of peoples from the Territories in the work of the Committee.

11. Referring to the suggestions made in his opening address by the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, participants were of the opinion that a visit by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or his designated representative, as early as possible in the decade, to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories would contribute to the successful eradication of colonialism during the decade.

12. Participants endorsed a proposal made by the Prime Minister that an extensive study should be undertaken of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the Special Committee's list and the results widely distributed throughout the world, together with relevant audio-visual materials. It was suggested that measures should be taken to strengthen the stature and effectiveness of the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies dealing with decolonization to ensure increased dissemination of information with a view to hastening the process of decolonization in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

13. Speakers underscored the importance of strengthening the information programmes to heighten the awareness of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of their political, economic and social rights.

14. Having heard the wishes expressed by the representatives from the Non-Self-Governing Territories, some participants considered that more opportunities should be provided for the populations of those Territories to speak for themselves and to make known their views on the issues at stake by inviting them to address the Special Committee.

15. Participants emphasized that the international community bore responsibility for fostering greater awareness of the self-determination process in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and that world-wide information programmes should be launched to enhance the political education of the inhabitants of the remaining colonial Territories and to familiarize them with activities undertaken by the United Nations and by regional and non-governmental organizations. They also stressed the need to continue to send visiting missions to the Territories to disseminate information on the self-determination process, to hear the views of the populations and to obtain first-hand information on the conditions in the Territories.

16. A number of speakers supported a proposal recommending that the Special Committee establish machinery in the Pacific region which would enable it to sustain the momentum for self-determination.

17. Speakers also considered that participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional and subregional economic organizations provided tangible benefits for their economies and that it was important to create all necessary conditions for those Territories to accede to membership of those organizations.

18. Participants, including representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, considered that the administering Powers should adopt necessary measures to prevent immigration which would have an adverse effect on the existing demographic or ethnic balance in the Territories.

19. Suggestions were made that the General Assembly should examine the list of Territories to which its resolution 1514 (XV) was still applicable, with a view to ascertaining whether it included all Territories to which the Declaration applied.

20. While speakers noted with appreciation the important role played by non-governmental organizations in the decolonization process, they urged that programmes for the economic and social advancement of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories should be continued and expanded as those Territories accede to independence, thereby enhancing the opportunity of the people of those Territories to determine freely their future without the threat of economic reprisals.

21. Participants also supported the proposal of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu that the Special Committee urge individual nations to consider the adoption of legislation discouraging commercial enterprises from initiating or continuing activities prejudicial to the exercise of the right to self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

22. Participants also supported the proposal of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu in his opening address that legislation should be introduced to promote and safeguard the human rights of the peoples living under colonial domination, as well as to facilitate their recourse to judicial proceedings in order to gain economic and social restitution.

23. Considering that economic advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories would continue to be among the leading concerns of the peoples of those Territories, speakers deemed it essential that specific programmes should be created to guide and assist economic development of the Territories through greater self-reliance and reduction of their dependence on external sources.

24. It was stipulated that particular attention should be given to the creation of adequate economic infrastructures and the upgrading of transport and communications in the Territories in order to overcome the adverse economic effect of their remoteness and isolation.

25. Many participants noted the low level of economic development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and suggested an increased transfer of resources to those Territories. They suggested further that the administering Powers should ensure that foreign economic activities in connection with those transfers did not constitute an obstacle to the process of self-determination; further ensure and safeguard the permanent sovereignty over the natural resources for the peoples of those Territories; and take steps to protect them from activities harmful to their natural resources and environment or which could involve the Territories in illicit activities, such as money laundering, drug trafficking or smuggling.

26. Noting the devastation and the threat to fishing stocks posed by the use of driftnet fishing, participants considered that all States Members of the

United Nations should adhere to the guidelines contained in General Assembly resolution 44/225 of 22 December 1989 on driftnet fishing and that the continuation of this practice presented a grave threat to the fragile economies of small island Territories.

27. Emphasizing the importance of ensuring that the populations of the Territories concerned were adequately compensated for the extraction of marine and other resources from their land and territorial waters, speakers stated that all States Members of the United Nations should ensure that their nationals respected the territorial waters and any licensing arrangements in effect within those maritime boundaries.

28. The importance of satellite technology and its potential for economic and social advancement in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was discussed and it was suggested that their introduction into the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be encouraged and facilitated by the administering Powers.

29. It was noted that the tourist industry continued to be the main economic activity of some island Territories, given their attractive climatic and environmental conditions, and that others were likely to engage in the same activity. While recognizing that tourism could be a major source of revenue for those Territories given their limited natural resources, the participants considered that such development activities should be undertaken only with extreme care to ensure that the scarce land resources were not alienated from the people of the Territory and that the development of a tourist industry was carefully monitored to avoid cultural disruption and to ensure that there was no marginalization of the local population.

30. Noting the heavy dependency on food imports in most of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, speakers recommended that high priority should be given to programmes of agricultural advancement, and that geographical diversification of economic and trade relations should be encouraged.

31. Many participants recognized that it was extremely difficult for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve economies of a scale similar to that of larger countries, and suggested that States Members of the United Nations should initiate and facilitate special trading relationships with Non-Self-Governing Territories.

32. Many participants also noted the economic and cultural significance of land in the non-self-governing island Territories in the Pacific and urged the administering Powers to take steps to release land held by them to the peoples of their Territories, and to guarantee their right to retain their land and to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territories, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

33. The overwhelming majority of participants expressed their conviction that a great deal remained to be accomplished in the fields of education, training and health services vital to the creation of optimum conditions required for

an act of self-determination, and asserted that the administering Powers and the international community should provide, as a matter of urgency, all necessary assistance in that regard.

34. Participants urged that the Special Committee to take note of the concerns of indigenous peoples in its work and to consider sending an observer to the meetings of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples.

## Annex I

## THEMES DISCUSSED AT THE SEMINAR

Upon the recommendation of the General Assembly (resolution 44/100, of 11 December 1989, annex), the following themes were discussed at the seminar:

(a) Self-determination: its application to small Territories, particularly to the case of small islands;

(b) Economic and social development in the small Territories and their impact on the exercise of the right of the peoples of those Territories to self-determination;

(c) Environmental problems affecting small islands;

(d) Protection of natural resources, particularly marine resources, for the benefit of the populations of small islands and Territories;

(e) Protection of land for island populations and dangers of foreign exploitation;

(f) Heightening of awareness of options concerning future political status;

(g) Colonialism and racial discrimination;

(h) Self-determination and regional integration of small islands;

(i) Foreign economic interests and/or activities in the small Territories, with particular concern for the views of the populations concerned;

(j) Consequences of the military use of small islands.

## Annex II

### STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF VANUATU

Welcome to Vanuatu! We are pleased and honoured that our country was chosen to be the venue for this important and historic regional seminar in observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The United Nations Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples occupies a very special place in the hearts of our people. Ten years ago - thanks in large part to the efforts of the Special Committee and dedicated international civil servants such as our dear friend, Tom Tanaka - we ourselves stood poised on the threshold of national independence. Today we take great pride in welcoming you to a politically independent Vanuatu which is busily engaged in attempting to build a better life for our children, and in helping to build a better world for children everywhere.

That world, we hope, will be a world free of poverty, illiteracy and disease. That world, we hope, will be a world free of military blocs: an arms race; nuclear, chemical, or bacteriological weapons; and the threat of environmental disasters, particularly those posed to the most vulnerable of us all. That world, we hope, will be a world free of drug abuse and drug trafficking. That world, we hope, will be a world free of racism, inter-ethnic strife, religious and cultural intolerance, discrimination against women, and most importantly, colonialism in all its various forms. That world will, we hope, be a world of hope, promise, and fulfilment for all men and all women, all nations, all peoples, and all cultures. The successful realization of these hopes can only be the product of many years of effort by all of mankind.

This has been the essence of the work of the Special Committee since its very inception. Now, as we approach the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the entire world bears witness to the beauty and the value of the mosaic of humanity that exists at the United Nations. That mosaic is a direct consequence of the decolonization process, and of the dedication of those who have been in the front line of that process spearheading its effectiveness.

Without a doubt, this process has been one of the most successful undertakings of the United Nations. This is a fact which no one can honestly dispute. The results may not have always been to everyone's complete satisfaction. In some cases, the process may not even have been completed yet. However, step by step the process of decolonization continues. Now, that process is entering a decisive stage.

We are aware that a few voices still continue to question the value of the Special Committee. However, no nation that ever endured the pain and humiliation of colonialism questions the value of the Special Committee. No people that ever

witnessed the transfer of their national wealth without their consent questions the continued relevancy of the Special Committee to today's world. No one who ever struggled against colonialism is now prepared to accept an end, or ever a de-emphasis, of United Nations efforts in this important area until the people of every single land, regardless of size, population, geographic location, or relative wealth are free to determine their own destinies.

For our part, we in Vanuatu applaud the efforts of every nation that is a member of the Special Committee. We salute the professionalism, dedication and efficiency of the members of the secretariat. We also note with appreciation the wisdom and statesmanship of those administering Powers that have co-operated, and those that continue to co-operate, with the Special Committee in the discharge of its very important duties and responsibilities. All have contributed in a very real sense, not only to the process of decolonization, but also to the creation of a new international jurisprudence of human decency.

Although the march of decolonization has been steady, and there is much with which we can all be satisfied, important work remains to be done. Namibia has now joined the community of nations. We congratulate Namibia and its people on their victory and wish them well as they reclaim their future.

Many, if not most, of the world's remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories can be found here in the South Pacific. In a sense, we now have our own "Namibias" and our own "Palestines" - potentially explosive colonial situations that preoccupy every nation in our region and cry out for international attention. Therefore, this seminar is for us much more than a commemoration or a celebration. For us this seminar offers an opportunity for a serious exchange of ideas and reflection on the future. Hopefully, it will result in an effective call to action - a call for international co-operation to make the last decade of the twentieth century truly the world's last decade of colonialism. We are far more in need of fresh new ideas and concrete proposals than we are in need of another series of speeches.

In this regard, we are of the strong opinion that this decade should begin with a visit by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or a specially designated representative of the Secretary-General, to each of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. We would also like to see an extensive study of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories undertaken and widely distributed throughout the world along with relevant audio-visual materials. We also believe that an urgent appeal should be issued at the highest levels urging those who are still administering Non-Self-Governing Territories to establish the necessary conditions, as soon as possible, to enable the peoples of those Territories to gain their political and economic independence, prior to 31 December 1999, in accordance with the principles and practices of the United Nations. This appeal should also urge the remaining administering Powers to transmit information, in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

This would also be an ideal time to urge individual nations to consider the adoption of legislation discouraging commercial enterprises from continuing or initiating activities that are prejudicial to the exercise of the right of self-determination and independence by the peoples of the remaining

Non-Self-Governing Territories. Countries could also be requested to consider the adoption of legislation to promote the human rights of peoples living under foreign domination, and facilitating their recourse to judicial proceedings in order to gain economic and social restitution.

We believe that the international community should now take measures to strengthen the effectiveness and stature of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies concerned with decolonization. We would prefer to see an increase, rather than a decrease, in resources available both for the distribution of information on colonialism, and for scholarships and training facilities for the peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The remaining colonial situations are rather unique and present special difficulties. These, therefore, require very careful thought and analysis as well as special attention during this decade. All of us are working for the day when we can complete the work of the United Nations in the area of decolonization. Unfortunately, however, that day is not yet here. Our obligation is to end all colonialism, and not just its most visible forms and examples.

Therefore, we will lend our support to every reasonable effort to assure that the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism is characterized by a co-operative spirit, the strengthening of international democracy, and increased respect for the equality of all countries, all peoples and all cultures. In this regard, our people will continue to stand as one with our brothers and sisters in New Caledonia, in East Timor, and wherever else the dream of freedom has taken flight.

That dream has over many years proven to be a fire which cannot be extinguished. Many have given their lives in support of this noble cause. Let us at this seminar, and in our daily endeavours, always remember the sacrifices of martyrs such as Jean-Marie Tjibaou, Yeiwene Yeiwene and countless others in so many different lands, who lost their lives as a consequence of colonialism.

Mr. Chairman, once again we welcome you to our country and to our region. You, and the other participants, have our prayers for a successful meeting. We hope that in the future you and the Special Committee will be welcome everywhere in our region. During your stay we will spare no effort to assure your safety and your comfort here in Vanuatu. Furthermore, we will spare no effort to make our own contributions to our mutual engagement to build a world that is completely free of colonialism.

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## Annex III

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

### A. Participating Members of the Special Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| Chairman of the Special Committee | H.E. Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse<br>Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations |

### Members of the Special Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| Chile | Mr. Horacio del Valle<br>First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| Fiji | H.E. Mr. Winston Thompson<br>Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations |
| Indonesia | H.E. Mr. Wiryono Sastro Handoyo<br>Director-General for Political Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia |
| | Mr. Thomas Aquino Samodra Sriwidjaja<br>First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations |
| Norway | Mr. Sverre J. Bergh Johanssen<br>Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations |
| Tunisia | Mr. Ghazi Jomaa<br>First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations |
| United Republic of Tanzania | Mr. Samuel A. Mdee<br>Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations |
| Yugoslavia | Mr. Milislav Paić<br>Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations |

B. Administering Powers

| | |
|---|---|
| New Zealand | Ms. Caroline Forsyth |
| | Ms. Sarah Craig |
| Portugal | Dr. Jose Luiz Gomez |

C. Representatives of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories

| | |
|---|---|
| American Samoa | High Talking Chief I.S. Mulitauaopele and Special Assistant to the Governor on Public Affairs |
| Guam | Mr. Leland Bettis, Executive Director of the Guam Commission on Self-determination |
| | Mr. Ron Rivera, Chairman of the Organization of People for Indigenous Rights of Guam |
| New Caledonia | Mr. Paul Neaoutyine, President of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste (FLNKS) |
| | Mr. Rock Wamytan, Representative of FLNKS |
| | Mr. Yann Celene Uregei, Representative of the Front uni de libération kanak |
| Tokelau | Mr. Casimilo Perez, Official Secretary, Office for Tokelau Affairs |

D. Members of the South Pacific Forum

| | |
|---|---|
| Australia | Mr. John Trotter, Principal Adviser, Pacific, Africa, Middle East and South Asia Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia |
| | H.E. Mr. David Ambrose<br>High Commissioner of Australia to Vanuatu |
| | Mr. James Pearson, First Secretary, High Commission of Australia to Vanuatu |
| Solomon Islands | Mr. Robert Sisilo, Representative of the Government of the Solomon Islands |

E. Special guests

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr. Colin Aikman | Director, Institute of International Affairs in New Zealand |
| Mr. Roger Clark | Professor of Law, Rutgers University |
| Mr. Ron Crocombe | Professor, University of the South Pacific |
| Mr. John Dowd | Member of Parliament and Attorney-General of New South Wales |
| Ms. Anne Forward | National President, Australian Public Sector Broadcasting Union |
| Ms. Patricia Hyndman | Associate Professor, University of New South Wales/Lawasia |
| Mr. Peter Larmour | University of Tasmania |
| Ms. Alison Quentin-Baxter | Director, Law Commission of New Zealand |
| Mr. Jose Ramos-Horta | Executive Director of the Diploma Programme at the University of New South Wales |
| H.E. Mr. Renagi Renagi Lohia | Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations |
| Ms. Ellen Whelan | Editor, Pacific News Bulletin |
| H.E. Mr. Robert F. Van Lierop | Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations |
| Ms. Donna Winslow | Professor of Anthropology, University of Montreal |

F. Non-governmental organizations

| | |
|---|---|
| Asia Pacific Research Unit Ltd. | Mr. Anthony Haas |
| Asian Youth Council | Mr. Hasan Bin Malek |
| Canadian University Services Overseas | Mr. Raymond Clark |
| Community Aid Abroad | Mr. Jacques Boengkih |
| Foundation for People of the South Pacific | Ms. Dorothy McIntosh |
| Institute of Pacific Studies | Mr. Asesela Ravuvu |

| | |
|---|---|
| International Commission of Jurists | Mr. Anthony Simpson |
| International Organization for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination | Mr. Hussein Raiani |
| Melanesian Solidarity | Mr. Pett Lafanama |
| National Aboriginal and Islander Legal Services Secretariat | Mr. Paul Coe |
| New Zealand Council of (Maori, Church and State) Organization for Relief, Rehabilitation and Development | Ms. Hilda Halkyard Harawira |
| Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations | Mr. Abraham Baeanisia |
| Pacific Islands Development Programme | Mr. Sitiveni Halapua |
| South Pacific People's Foundation of Canada | Mr. Randall Garrison |
| World Vision of Australia | Ms. Roz McDonald |

G. Regional organizations

| | |
|---|---|
| Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific | Mr. Jean-Pierre Reymondet-Commoy |
| South Pacific Forum | Mr. Roy Vaughan, Information and Publications Officer |
| School of Social and Economic Development, University of South Pacific | Mr. Simione Durutalo |

H. Host Government

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr. Nikenike Vurobaravu | First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Judicial Services |
| Mr. Joe Natuman | First Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister |
| Mr. Vincent Boulekone | Member of Parliament |
| Ms. Hilda Lini | Member of Parliament |
| Mr. Tele Taun | Member of Parliament |

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr. Charles Bice | Secretary-General, Vanua'aku Pati |
| Mr. Raymond Malapa | Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Judicial Services |

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UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.109/1040/Corr.1
15 August 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR IN OBSERVANCE OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES, HELD AT PORT VILA, VANUATU, FROM 9 TO 11 MAY 1990

Rapporteur: Mr. Samuel A. MDEE (United Republic of Tanzania)

## Corrigendum

1. CONTENTS

   Under Annexes insert the following:

   IV. Expression of appreciation of the Government and people of the Republic of Vanuatu

2. Page 6, paragraph 25, line 3

   For his organization read FLNKS

3. Insert the text on the following page as annex IV to the report.

Annex IV

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

The Regional Seminar in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Having met from 9 to 11 May 1990 at Port Vila,

Having heard an important address by the Honourable Father Walter H. Lini, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu,

Expresses its profound gratitude to the Prime Minister and to the Government and the people of Vanuatu, for inviting the seminar to be held at Port Vila, for providing the necessary facilities and for the continuous support and participation which contributed to the success of the Seminar.

5th meeting at Vanuatu
11 May 1990

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UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
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3 August 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# NEW CALEDONIA

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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# I. GENERAL 1/

1. New Caledonia is located in the south-west Pacific Ocean between Australia and Fiji. It consists of a main island, Grande Terre, and a number of smaller islands. To the east of Grande Terre are the Loyalty Islands (Ouvéa, Mare, Lifou and Tiga), to the north, the Belep Islands and to the south the Isle of Pines. There are also several small, uninhabited islands to the north of the Loyalty Islands. The area of Grande Terre is 16,750 square kilometres and that of all the islands combined is 19,103 square kilometres. Nouméa, the capital, is located on Grande Terre.

2. According to the 1989 census, the total population of New Caledonia was 164,173 inhabitants, of whom 44.8 per cent were indigenous Melanesians known as Kanaks; and 33.6 per cent were of European origin, mainly French, of whom some 35,000 persons were descendants of the early settlers, known as Caldoches. In addition, some 21.6 per cent were of various ethnic origins, including Wallisians, Tahitians, Indonesians and Vietnamese.

# II. CONSIDERATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS

## A. Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

3. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples considered the question of New Caledonia at its 1347th, 1350th, 1352nd and 1355th meetings, between 7 and 15 August 1989. After hearing several petitioners and following a statement by the representative of Solomon Islands, on behalf of the South Pacific Forum members that are Members of the United Nations (Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu), as well as statements by the representatives of Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea (A/AC.109/PV.1355), the Special Committee adopted without objection a draft resolution submitted by Fiji (A/AC.109/L.1711). In the resolution (A/AC.109/1012), the Committee noted that the French authorities were taking positive measures to promote political, economic and social development in New Caledonia to provide a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory to self-determination; urged all parties involved to maintain their dialogue and, in the spirit of harmony, to refrain from acts of violence; and invited all the parties to continue to promote a framework for a peaceful progress of the Territory to self-determination in which all options were open, and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians.

4. On 17 August 1989, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/1012) was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

## B. General Assembly

5. In their statements in the general debate at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the representatives of the following delegations referred to the question of New Caledonia: Botswana (A/44/PV.7), Solomon Islands (A/44/PV.9), Indonesia (A/44/PV.11), Fiji (A/44/PV.13), Guinea and New Zealand (A/44/PV.15), Uruguay (A/44/PV.16), Zimbabwe (A/44/PV.22), Vanuatu (A/44/PV.25) and Papua New Guinea (A/44/PV.40).

6. Between 5 and 23 October, during the course of the debate in the Fourth Committee relating to New Caledonia, the Committee heard several petitioners on the question (A/C.4/44/SR.11, 12 and 13).

7. At its 16th meeting, on 25 October 1989, the Fourth Committee adopted, by consensus, a draft resolution submitted by the Special Committee (see para. 3). At its 80th plenary meeting, on 11 December, the General Assembly, by approving the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, adopted without a vote resolution 44/89 on the question. The operative paragraphs of the resolution read as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia;
>
> "2. Urges all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain their dialogue and, in the spirit of harmony, to refrain from acts of violence;
>
> "3. Invites all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians;
>
> "4. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session."

8. On 21 February 1990, the text of the resolution was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

## III. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

9. From 5 to 7 October 1989, in Paris, the Committee to Monitor the Matignon and the Rue Oudinot Agreements (see A/AC.109/1000, paras. 9-14) brought together a delegation composed of the signatories to the Agreements and a government delegation composed of Mr. Michel Rocard, and Mr. Louis Le Pensec, Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories.

10. The Committee's Final Communiqué, issued in Paris on 7 October 1989, reads as follows:

> "The delegations reaffirmed their strong commitment to restoring balance to development in the Territory, social justice and a new sharing of responsibilities which will lead, as civil order is consolidated, to a better understanding between the communities in anticipation of the referendum on self-determination to be held in 1998.
>
> "The signing of the Matignon and the Rue Oudinot Agreements and the realization thereof through direct administration and the establishment of provincial institutions had led to progress in the relations between the communities, allowing each of them to commit itself without hesitation to building for the future.
>
> "These working meetings also led to a thorough review of issues on which new impetus, more detailed study or clarifications are obviously necessary if the objectives set out in the Agreements are to be achieved more effectively and rapidly. These items were listed in a statement of conclusions that will be implemented by the Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories and the Government's appointee, the High Commissioner of the Republic in New Caledonia, along with the elected provincial authorities of the provinces and the Territory, and the signatories to the Agreements."

11. The six-party coalition Front de Libération nationale kanak socialiste (FLNKS), one of the major political movements of the Territory, was accepted as a full member of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), 2/ which comprises Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, at its meeting held early in March 1990 at Honiara, Solomon Islands. Mr. François Burk, then acting President of FLNKS, was reported to have stated that his movement was pleased with the membership because it was very important that the Kanak struggle for independence was recognized especially by Melanesian countries. He is further reported to have stated that the next move by FLNKS would be to seek observer status in the South Pacific Forum. In this connection, it has been reported that MSG has agreed to try and obtain observer status for FLNKS at the next meeting of the South Pacific Forum, scheduled to be held in Vanuatu in July 1990. 3/

12. In a joint communiqué issued at the end of the meeting, MSG was reported to have called on France "to vigorously address the issue of New Caledonia's independence" and to have stated that the "lack of action on the issue amounted to an attempt to delay independence". 4/

13. Mr. Jacques Lafleur, President of the other major political movement in New Caledonia, the Rassemblement pour la Calédonie dans la République (RPCR), was reported to have stated that the admission of FLNKS to full membership in MSG had been a mistake and "an attack on the Matignon Agreement". 5/ This criticism was rejected by the FLNKS Political Bureau, which issued a statement saying that membership in MSG was a natural consequence of the policies of the late Jean-Marie Tjibaou. The statement further added that FLNKS would also keep its permanent observer status in the Movement of Non-aligned Countries. 6/

14. In late March 1990, FLNKS elected Messrs Paul Neaoutyine, head of the Parti de libération kanak (PALIKA) and Mayor of Poindimié, and Rock Wamytan of the Union Calédonienne, respectively as President and Vice-President of the coalition. Mr. Neaoutyine was one of the signatories to the Matignon Agreement. 7/

15. Mr. Neaoutyine was reported to have stated that his top priority would be to improve the economic conditions of the Kanak population in New Caledonia, particularly through small projects best suited to the Territory's needs.

16. According to press reports, FLNKS has launched a campaign to bring together all political parties in New Caledonia into one organization. Mr. Wamytan, Vice-President of FLNKS, was reported to have stated that he had not ruled out talks with dissenting groups which questioned whether the Matignon Agreement would lead to independence for the Territory. He further stated that FLNKS was committed to supporting the Matignon Agreement. 8/

Visitors to the Territory

17. According to press reports, 9/ Mr. Michel Rocard, Prime Minister of France, arrived in New Caledonia on 20 August 1989 for a three-day visit to observe the progress achieved in the implementation of the Matignon Agreement.

18. Mr. Rocard was accompanied by Mr. Louis Le Pensec, Minister for Overseas Territories, and by Mrs. Edwige Avice, Minister in the Department of Foreign Affairs. During his visit, Mr. Rocard was reported to have stated that the Agreement would remain "just a document of political principles if the people did not see concrete results from them in the form of economic activity and more jobs, hospitals and roads".

19. Mr. Rocard appealed to the youth of the Territory to direct their energies into economic construction instead of violent political struggle and urged elected officials to concentrate their efforts on developing the economy and improving living conditions in New Caledonia. He promised a target of starting three development projects in each municipality in the Territory.

20. Regarding amnesty for New Caledonian separatists facing charges resulting from their involvement in a violent hostage incident which had taken place in Ouvéa in 1988 and during which several French gendarmes and 19 Kanaks had died, Mr. Rocard stated that he would discuss the matter with Mr. François Mitterand, President of France, and later with the signatories to the Matignon Agreement (see para. 9).

21. Press reports also indicated that Mr. Russell Marshall, New Zealand Special Envoy on Foreign Affairs, had paid a visit to New Caledonia in February 1990. 10/ Mr. Marshall was reported to have stated that people in the Territory had greater freedom to make contact with other Pacific Governments and that New Zealand, being the country's closest neighbour, had a special responsibility to monitor developments in New Caledonia.

22. According to the same sources, Senator Gareth Evans, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia, held talks with leaders of the major political groups and representatives of the French Administration in the Territory in April 1990, including Mr. Bernard Grasset, French High Commissioner in Nouméa, and leaders of FLNKS and RPCR. Mr. Evans was reported to have stated that he aimed to confirm close ties between his country and the South Pacific. 11/

Municipal elections

23. In February 1990, municipal elections were held in the province of Ouvéa. There was a turnout of nearly 1,760 of the 2,439 registered voters.

24. Mr. Ciriaque Alosio, of FLNKS, retained his position as Mayor of Ouvéa with 45.4 per cent of the votes cast. FLNKS won 20 seats in the Ouvéa island administration and RPCR, 4. 12/

Amnesty bill

25. As stated above (see para. 20), during his visit to New Caledonia in August 1989, Mr. Michel Rocard had stated that he would discuss with President Mitterand, as well as with signatories to the Matignon Agreement the question of amnesty for New Caledonians who were facing charges resulting from their involvement in the violent hostage incident which had taken place in Ouvéa in 1988.

26. It will be recalled that the Amnesty Law of 1988 which resulted in the release of 47 Kanak militants was not applicable to those who, by their direct and personal action, were the principal perpetrators of the crime of murder (crime de sang) as provided in article 296 of the French Penal Code (see A/AC.109/1000, para. 15).

27. The purpose of the draft amnesty bill, adopted by the French Council of Ministers on 25 October 1989, was to extend the benefit of the amnesty to those previously excluded by the above 1988 law. On 18 December 1989, the French National Assembly adopted the bill on first reading by 305 votes to 260. 13/ It was subsequently approved by the Senate, and promulgated into law on 10 January 1990. According to press reports, the law would apply to 40 people accused of murder, including 32 who were involved in the Ouvéa incident. 14/

28. The French Minister for Justice, according to published reports, stated that the amnesty was a condition for maintaining peace in New Caledonia. 14/

## IV. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### A. General

29. The basis of New Caledonia's economy is the nickel industry which, in 1989, accounted for 80.4 per cent of the Territory's exports. The mining sector is dominated by European settlers, who also own most of the arable land and control the mining industry. The majority of Kanaks are involved in subsistence agriculture, which plays a minor role in the Territory's economy (see paras. 44 and 45).

30. Since the 1970s, the Territory's economy has been adversely affected by a decline in world nickel market prices. Beginning in 1988, however, nickel production rose considerably (see para. 53).

31. The Territory relies on subsidies from France to supplement local sources of revenue. In 1988 and 1989, subsidies amounted to 7,600 million Communauté financière du Pacifique francs (CFPF) and CFPF 3,531 million, respectively. 15/

32. Most of the economic activities of the Territory have been concentrated so far in the southern part of the main island. To remedy that situation and to ensure a more balanced economic development of all the regions of the Territory, the Matignon Agreement provides for a series of measures, including the decentralization and regionalization of a number of economic activities, as well as the launching of regional development programmes tailored, in size and objectives, to meet the specific needs of each region. 16/

33. In this connection, it was reported in December 1989 that the presidents of the regional councils of the three provinces and the High Commissioner for New Caledonia had signed a development contract aimed at investing a total of 1.9 billion French francs in the economy of the Territory over a three-year period. In conformity with the spirit of the Matignon Agreement, approximately 75 per cent of that amount will be spent on various development projects in the northern province and the eastern islands province, while the southern province will receive 25 per cent.

Balance of trade

34. New Caledonia's main trading partners are France, which supplies 44.1 per cent of all imports, followed by the European Community (EC) (16.2 per cent outside France); the United States of America (10.4 per cent); and Australia (9.1 per cent). In 1989, total imports to the Territory were valued at CFPF 88,608 million, an increase of 35.5 per cent over 1988.

35. The Territory's main imports were machines and electrical and transport materials, which accounted for 39.5 per cent of total imports, followed by food products (17.6 per cent).

36. Exports valued at CFPF 77,900 million increased by 53.3 per cent from 1988. This was due to the high increase in mineral production, which began to rise in 1988 and continued to rise further in 1989.

37. After nickel, the largest exports in 1989 were fisheries, which earned CFPF 622 million: mainly tuna (CFPF 239 million), shrimp (CFPF 113 million), shellfish (CFPF 61 million) and sea slugs (CFPF 39 million).

38. Shrimp exports, which began as the result of an aquaculture experiment in 1987 (see para. 49 below) rose in value from CFPF 65 million in 1988 to CFPF 113 million in 1989, accounting for nearly 20 per cent of fisheries exports.

39. The major export partners of the Territory were Japan (68 per cent), Australia (12 per cent) and Hong Kong (7 per cent).

40. The increase in revenue from nickel (see para. 53) in 1988 and 1989 reduced the negative trade balance from CFPF -42,700 in 1987 to CFPF -10,708 in 1989 (see table 1).

Table 1. Balance of trade

(Millions of CFPF)

| | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Imports | 52 648 | 59 382 | 63 353 | 65 395 | 88 608 |
| Exports | 41 867 | 23 573 | 20 653 | 50 814 | 77 900 |
| Negative trade balance | -10 781 | -35 809 | -42 700 | -14 581 | -10 708 |

Source: Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Tableaux de l'économie calédonienne, Edition 1988 (Nouméa, New Caledonia), p. 201; Bulletin de Conjoncture, No. 28, 4ème trimestre 1989, p. 4-5.

## B. Public finance

41. Ordinary revenue for 1989 amounted to CFPF 50 billion, compared with CFPF 38 billion in 1988. Extraordinary revenue totalled CFPF 4.6 billion in 1988, compared with CFPF 3.1 billion in 1986.

42. The major sources of revenue were direct taxes, indirect taxes and subsidies provided by the French Government.

43. Ordinary expenditure amounted to CFPF 47.2 billion in 1989, compared to CFPF 42.5 billion in 1988. Administrative expenditure on services and Government totalled CFPF 36.3 billion in 1989, compared to CFPF 18.8 billion in 1988. This represented some 77 per cent of total ordinary expenditure.

## C. Agriculture, land tenure and livestock

44. Since the early years of French control of the Territory, when all land was taken over by the Government of France and redistributed, the Kanaks had been confined mainly to reserves in designated areas of the Territory, in particular the outlying islands. The Europeans had settled on the west coast of Grande Terre, which has 83 per cent of the arable land in the Territory.

45. As provided for in the Statement of Conclusions reached on 5 and 6 October by the Committee to Monitor the Matignon Agreement, in order to meet the objectives of rural development and recognition of the dignity of the Melanesian community, the Administrative Council of the newly formed rural and land development agency, Agence de développement rural et d'aménagement foncier (ADRAF), held a working session, at which time, inter alia, it decided on the transfer of 30,000 hectares before the end of 1990, of which 15,000 hectares were to be transferred by the end of 1989. The Kanaks will be allocated two thirds of that amount, with the proportion to be increased to three quarters of the remaining 15,000 hectares by 1990. 17/

## D. Fisheries

46. The exclusive economic zone of 200 miles around the Territory, established in 1978, covers 2.1 million square kilometres and a great potential exists for the future development of fisheries.

47. In 1988, small-scale fishing in the lagoons and coastal waters by independent fishermen accounted for some 5,775 tons, including 2,000 tons caught by non-professional fishermen and/or for self-consumption. There were 248 fishing boats, excluding those of subsistence fishermen.

48. Since 1987, total annual production of tuna and related species, nearly all exported to Japan, has exceeded 1,000 tons: 1,351 tons in 1987 and 1,297 tons in 1988. Production figures for 1989 are not yet available but are expected to exceed 1,000 tons.

49. As reported above (see para. 38), exports of shrimp, which began as the result of a modest experiment of aquaculture initiated on the south-western coast with the assistance of the South Pacific Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), yielded CFPF 113 million in 1989.

50. In 1986, fishing agreements were negotiated between Japan and the Territory. Under the agreements, 37 Japanese boats were allowed to fish in the Territory's waters and to catch a maximum of 2,500 tons of tuna and related species, with an estimated value of CFPF 20.6 million (see table 2). The agreements were renewed in March 1990 for a period of 15 months.

Table 2. Fisheries agreements between France and Japan

(1984-1989)

| | 1984/85 | 1985/86 | 1986/87 | 1987/88 | 1989/90 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Authorized tons | 2 350 | 2 650 | 2 645 | 2 500 | 2 500 |
| Number of authorized boats | 29 | 36 | 34 | 29 | 37 |
| Royalties (Millions of CFPF) | 12.0 | 14.9 | 17.1 | 16.2 | 20.6 |
| Actual number of boats which fished in the zone | 12 | 15 | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Tonnage fished (in tons) | 261 | 615 | 533 | 1 043 | 793 |

Source: Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Bulletin de Conjoncture, No. 28, 4ème trimestre 1989, p. 9-6.

## E. Mining

51. New Caledonia has 28 per cent of the world's deposits of oxidized nickel ore and is the third largest producer of nickel in the world after Canada and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Its known and estimated reserves of nickel are believed to amount to 50 million tons.

52. Nickel has been, in recent decades, the Territory's principal export. The industry is controlled by France, which has declared nickel to be a strategic mineral. Currently, nickel is mined at several sites along the east and west coasts by the State-controlled Société métallurgique Le Nickel (SLN), as well as by four independent mining companies.

53. Total production of nickel ore amounted to 4.9 million tons in 1989, an increase of 41 per cent from 1988 and 59 per cent from 1987. Exports, mainly to Japan, earned CFPF 2.0 billion in 1989. 18/

54. In April 1990, 19/ after a year of negotiations, a regional council of FLNKS bought the 85 per cent share of Mr. Lafleur of RPCR for $US 319 million in the largest private nickel mine of the Société minière du Pacifique (SMPS), located in the northern province of New Caledonia. The French Government was reported to have agreed beforehand to the transactions.

55. Mr. Lafleur is reported to have stated in this connection that he favoured a stronger economic role for Melanesians ahead of the 1998 referendum on self-determination scheduled under the Matignon Agreement. According to the same sources, Mr. Lafleur was congratulated by the Prime Minister of France for his gesture, which the French Government considered as a major contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the Matignon Agreement. 20/

## F. Transport and communications

56. Transport is well developed in New Caledonia. The Territory has one of the best air and road networks in the South Pacific. The international airport at Tontouta, 53 kilometres from Nouméa, is served by six overseas airlines. There is one local airline that makes 36 flights per week to the Iles Loyauté, 16 to the Ile des Pins, one to Koumac and the Iles Bélep and three to Touho.

57. In 1987, there were 43 civil aircraft in the Territory, 9 of which were used as commercial aircraft and 34 for general aviation. There were 30 airfields, 21 for aeroplanes and 9 for helicopters. International passenger traffic totalled 226,487 in 1986, 240,838 in 1987 and 247,410 in 1989.

58. In June 1990, Air Calédonie opened a new route between Melbourne, Australia, and Nouméa. 21/

59. Coastal roads circle the islands and several roads cross the interior. In 1987, there was a total of 6,340 kilometres of roads in the Territory, as follows: 1,140 kilometres of territorial roads (routes territoriales), of which 924 were paved; 2,700 kilometres of communal roads (routes communales), of which a third were paved; and 2,500 kilometres of rural roads (chemins ruraux), mostly unpaved.

60. Most goods are shipped through the port of Nouméa, although mineral exports are loaded directly at the mining centres. There is regular cargo service from Australia and New Zealand, and seven shipping companies operate services between New Caledonia and the Far East, the United States and Europe. Small coastal vessels service the Ile des Pins, the Iles Loyauté and the Iles Bélep. Apart from several thousand pleasure craft and a few cruise ships, over 30 small vessels are engaged in commercial services in the Territory. In 1989, 977,000 tons of freight were unloaded (as against 856,120 tons in 1987) and 2,220,000 tons were loaded (compared with 1,604,800 tons in 1987).

61. With regard to communications, it was established in the Statement of Conclusions reached on 5 and 6 October 1989 by the Committee to Monitor the Matignon and the Rue Oudinots Agreements that the Government would request Radio-France Outre Mer to deploy human and technical resources in a decentralized fashion, in order to reflect more accurately the situation obtaining in the interior and on the islands. In addition, as of February 1990, private radio stations would have access to relay transmitters, thereby enabling them to reach uncovered areas of the Territory.

62. In June 1990, a new radio station, "Radio Latitude", went on the air in the Territory. The new station aims at promoting the cultures of the ethnic groups of New Caledonia and at becoming the cultural bridge between the different groups. According to the station's co-ordinator, the staff of "Radio Latitude" includes Melanesians, Vanuatuans, Wallisians, Tahitians, French nationals and French Antillians. 22/

## G. Tourism

63. Tourism, which traditionally had been one of the secondary mainstays of the Territory's economy, has been adversely affected by political developments in the past few years. Total arrivals in the Territory increased, however, by 35.3 per cent from 1987 to 1989.

64. The number of Japanese tourists rose by 67.7 per cent between 1987 and 1989. This high percentage was due to the opening by l'Union de Transports Aériens (UTA) of a second line to Tokyo at the end of 1988. The number of Australian and New Zealand tourists also increased (see table 3).

Table 3. Number of tourists, 1987-1989

| | 1987 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|
| Japanese | 16 278 | 27 358 |
| French | 18 063 | 21 054 |
| Australians | 9 869 | 13 974 |
| New Zealanders | 5 555 | 7 411 |
| Others | 10 982 | 12 364 |
| Total | 60 747 | 82 161 |

Source: Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Tableaux de l'économie calédonienne, Edition 1988 (Nouméa, New Caledonia), p. 191; ibid., Bulletin de Conjoncture, No. 28, 4ème trimestre 1989, p. 7-2.

# V. SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

## A. Labour

65. Labour relations in New Caledonia are governed by the Code du Travail of 1982, as modified in 1986, which applies to all French Overseas Territories. There are a number of labour unions. There is also a guaranteed minimum wage.

66. In December 1989, there were 30,885 workers in paid employment in Nouméa, and 7,919 in the interior and other islands, as shown in table 4 below.

Table 4. Employment by sectors

| | Nouméa | Interior and other islands |
|---|---|---|
| Agriculture and fisheries | 521 | 142 |
| Construction industry | 4 512 | 729 |
| Other industries | 4 429 | 461 |
| Mining | 480 | 729 |
| Transport | 1 404 | 442 |
| Trade | 5 823 | 789 |
| Clerical | 3 053 | 84 |
| Liberal professions | 646 | 70 |
| Public and semi-public service | 7 123 | 3 402 |
| Other | 2 894 | 773 |

Source: Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Informations Statistiques Rapides, No. 93, p. 56.

67. From March to May 1990, workers of the constuction and engineering group Entrepose-Montaler went on strike, nearly paralysing two subsidiaries of that group. The strike had been called by the Union of Exploited Kanak Workers (USTKE), and the workers' demands included bonuses equivalent to one month's wages and the formation of employee organizations that would contribute to workers' welfare and involvement in company management.

68. In early May 1990 an agreement was reached whereby the company would pay members of the USTKE an annual bonus equivalent to one month's salary. The agreement also provided for the establishment of company committees to deal with employee welfare and for workers' representatives to contribute to management decisions. The strikers would receive no pay for two thirds of the time they had been on strike. 23/

69. In June 1990, the south province and the Nouméa city administration launched a new project to help local youth to find employment and cope with their social problems. The project, with an annual budget of half a million United States dollars for a three-year period, aims at training and finding jobs for youth

between the ages of 16 and 25 years. It aims further at fighting social problems, including sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol abuse and the use of dangerous drugs. 24/

## B. Public health

70. The health system is organized into 25 districts under the direction of the Direction territoriale des affaires sanitaires et sociales (DTASS), established in 1984. In 1986, there were 226 medical practitioners, 22 dentists and 18 pharmacists in public service in the Territory. No figures are available for the period from 1987 to 1989.

71. The number of medical personnel in private practice in 1988 were 99 doctors, 29 pharmacists and 28 dentists.

72. In 1986, the ratio was one doctor to 460 inhabitants in Nouméa and one to 2,097 in the outlying areas.

73. The budgetary allocation for public health in 1987, according to the latest figures available, amounted to about CFPF 6.2 billion, an increase of 15.9 per cent over 1986.

74. In the Statement of Conclusions reached on 5 and 6 October 1989 by the Committee to Monitor the Matignon Agreement, it was recalled that article 34 of the referendum law authorized the allocation of special resources to the provinces for education and medical assistance. The manner in which such resources were to be calculated should be determined through close consultation, at the initiative of the High Commissioner.

## C. Educational conditions

75. Education in New Caledonia is free and compulsory for children between 6 and 14 years of age and is offered in the French language. Primary education is within the competence of territorial authorities; secondary education conforms to French standards.

76. There is an extensive network of primary schools and secondary institutions, offering both academic and technical/vocational programmes. Five institutions offer programmes in teacher training, law (in conjunction with the University of Bordeaux), advanced technical fields and commercial and business subjects. In addition to public schools, there are a large number of parochial and non-religious private schools.

77. Under the regional system introduced in 1985, primary education was made the responsibility of the regional councils, three of which were Kanak-controlled. In 1986, however, the administration of primary education reverted to the territorial Assembly. According to FLNKS, the French curriculum is not adapted to Kanak culture, and this explains the relatively high rate of failure of Melanesian

students, especially at the higher level. For the past several years, FLNKS has run alternative schools known as "écoles populaires kanakes" at the elementary level, with an enrolment recorded in 1986 of some 1,500.

78. In November 1988, the French Minister for Education paid a five-day visit to the Territory during which he announced measures aimed at bringing more Melanesian schoolchildren into the educational system.

Table 5. School enrolment, 1985-1987*

| | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Primary schools | 31 589 | 31 875 | 32 205 |
| Secondary schools | 12 922 | 13 193 | 13 540 |
| Vocational schools | 5 429 | 5 721 | 5 887 |
| Post-secondary schools | 761 | 859 | 853 |
| Total | 50 701 | 51 648 | 52 485 |

Source: Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Tableaux de l'économie calédonienne, Edition 1988 (Nouméa, New Caledonia), p. 81.

* Latest figures available.

79. In 1987, there were 276 primary schools, 47 secondary schools and 28 vocational schools in the Territory and 2 post-secondary schools, 1 public and 1 private.

80. Kanaks represent 56.5 per cent of the students at the primary level, while they constitute 40 per cent of the total enrolment in secondary schools and in vocational high schools. In 1986 and 1987, there were 32 students enrolled in post-secondary establishments in the Territory, and 238 in France.

81. In 1987, there were 2,075 primary school teachers (1,559 in private schools and 516 in public schools); and 1,456 secondary schools teachers (961 in private and 495 in public schools). Expenditure on education amounted to CFPF 17,531 million in 1985, CFPF 18,844 million in 1986, and CFPF 20,166 million in 1987, about 25 per cent of which was financed by the territorial Government.

82. The Statement of Conclusions reached on 5 and 6 October 1989 by the Committee to Monitor the Matignon Agreement established the following targets in the areas of educational, cultural and social development:

Private education

In calculating State resource allocations to the provinces for the construction of secondary schools, consideration will be given to the total school population, including private school pupils. Since private institutions do not receive such funds because they have not signed a partnership agreement with the Government, "target contracts", aimed at upgrading them to the official standards within a three- to five-year period, shall be offered to private schools.

Boarding schools

The possibility of using the special State funds to finance boarding schools shall be considered in co-operation with the Ministry of Education.

Teachers

The methods of recruitment at the Ecole Normale shall be modified to allow prospective elementary school teachers to teach in their home province. The training needs of substitute elementary school teachers shall be given priority by the Touho and Mou centres.

"Operation 400 cadres"

Efforts shall continue to be made to diversify training in the technical, economic, social and cultural fields, in close co-operation with representatives of the provinces and of economic activities. The advisory committee shall be called upon to issue an opinion on a preliminary plan for such a training.

Young trainees in development activities

The trainees should receive training that is relevant to available employment opportunities, taking into particular account the scheduling of construction and major investment projects.

Seminars on vocational training

Seminars on vocational training as it relates to development objectives will be organized in the Territory with the participation of both elected officials and representatives of various occupational groups.

Former civil service interns

Priority shall be given to a review of their case by the Selection Board, thus enabling them to benefit from the provisions of article 83.

Adapting training to needs

Government and private-sector training shall increasingly be tailored to meet local needs.

Culture and information

The Director of Cultural Affairs in the office of the High Commissioner shall assist the provinces, at their request, in the preparation of cultural programmes. The construction of the premises of the Agency for the Development of Kanak Culture shall be financed as one of the major projects.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports, as well as from the Communiqué final du Comité du Suivi des Accords de Matignon, Paris, le 7 Octobre 1989, and Relevé de conclusions du Comité pour les journées des 5 et 6 Octubres.

2/ Radio Australia News Summary, 8 to 14 March 1990.

3/ Far Eastern Economic Review, 29 March 1990, p. 14; Radio Australia News Summary, 15 June 1990.

4/ Far Eastern Economic Review, 9 March 1990.

5/ Ibid., 13 March 1990.

6/ Ibid., 14 March 1990.

7/ Ibid., 25 March 1990.

8/ Ibid., 27 March 1990.

9/ Ibid., 20 and 21 August 1989.

10/ Ibid., 23 February 1990.

11/ Ibid., 27 and 28 April 1990.

12/ Ibid., 26 February 1990.

13/ Ibid., 29 November 1989.

14/ Le Monde (Paris), 26 October 1990.

15/ The local currency of the Territory is the CFP (Communauté financière du Pacifique) franc. One hundred CFP francs equal 5.5 French francs.

16/ Le Monde (Paris), 27 December 1989.

17/ Ibid., 15 November 1989.

Notes (continued)

18/ Institut territorial de la statistique et des études économiques, Bulletin de Conjoncture, No. 28, 4ème trimestre 1989, p. 6-1.

19/ Le Monde (Paris), 19 and 20 April 1990; Radio Australia News Summary, 23 April 1990.

20/ Le Monde (Paris), 20 April 1990.

21/ Radio Australia News Summary, 8 June 1990.

22/ Ibid., 19 June 1990.

23/ Ibid., 12 April and 10 May 1990.

24/ Ibid., 12 June 1990.

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UNITED
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A

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

NEW CALEDONIA

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

Corrigendum

1. Page 14, paragraph 67, second line

For Entrepose-Montaler read Entrepose-Montalev

2. Page 18, footnote 4

The footnote should read 4/ Radio Australia News Summary, 9 March 1990.

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